(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) *Vide* Press Note 3(2006 Series) dated 10-2-2006 Government has allowed FDI up to 51 % in retail trade of 'Single Brand' products with conditions and with prior Government approval.

(b) and (c) Products sold under Single Brand Retail with FDI cater to the brand-conscious clientele having a different niche as compared to that served by the small traders. Hence, FDI in retail trade of single brand products is not expected to affect the existing small and medium traders.

Setting up cement plants

1692. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any policy to set up cement plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the location-wise details of cement plants proposed to be set up in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) After the announcement of new Industrial Policy in 1991, investment decisions, including project location, have been left to the commercial judgement of the entrepreneurs. The Government acts as a facilitator and has put in place an investor friendly regime. There is no policy under which Government itself is required to set up cement plants.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Export of pharmaceutical and chemical items

1693. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pharmaceutical and chemical items being exported during the last three years;

(b) the details of value of exports made during this period; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the exports and earn huge foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Details of

the pharmaceutical and chemicals including organic and inorganic exported during the last three yars are given below :—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Pharmaceutical itmes	Chemicals including Organic and Inorganic
2004-05	9263	19139
2005-06	10821	24935
2006-07 (Apr.-Dec.,06)	10372	21718

(c) With a view to increase exports and earn huge foreign exchange, duty free import of raw materials required for production is allowed along with neutralization of taxes and duties as per provision of Foreign Trade Policy. Besides under Market Access Initiative (MAl) and Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Schemes, financial assistance is given to exporters for promotion of exports.

Appointments on compassionate grounds in DGS&D

1694. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons died in harness in the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D) during last five years;

(b) the name-wise and year-wise details thereof;

(c) how many dependents of the deceased persons have been appointed on compassionate grounds since then and how many cases are pending with the Ministry till date; and

(d) the reasons for delay and by when those dependents would be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) 52 persons have died in harness between 1.1.2002 till date in the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D), including its Regional Offices.

(b) A Statement giving the details is enclosed (*See* below).

(c) Four persons have been appointed on compassionate grounds during the last five years. As per the extant instructions of the Government of India the maximum time a person's name can be kept under consideration for offering compassionate appointment will be three years, subject to the condition that prescribed Committee has reviewed and certified the penurious condition of the applicant at the end of the first and the second year. Accordingly, 16 applicants received are pending.

(d) Compassionate appointments can be made upto a maximum of 5% of vacancies falling under direct recruitment quota in any Group 'C' or 'D' post. During these years sufficient number of direct recruitment vacancies did not become available to facilitate compassionate appointments in all cases.